

JEFFERSONIAN TO JACKSONIAN DEMOCRACY, 1797 - 1837

The Growth of a Nation and the
Democratization of the United
States, 1797 - 1837



SECTION ONE. JOHN ADAMS

The Federalist Party
The Sedition Act
Fries Rebellion

THE FEDERALIST PARTY

The Federalist Party was founded by Alexander Hamilton and basically adhered to these principles:

- Pro business, commerce, trade and industry.
- Favored a limited democracy which was managed by aristocrats
- Favored strong ties with England, the nation which we had shared a language and business relations with.
- Favored a strong executive branch – not unlike a monarchy.



DUEL BETWEEN BURR AND HAMILTON.

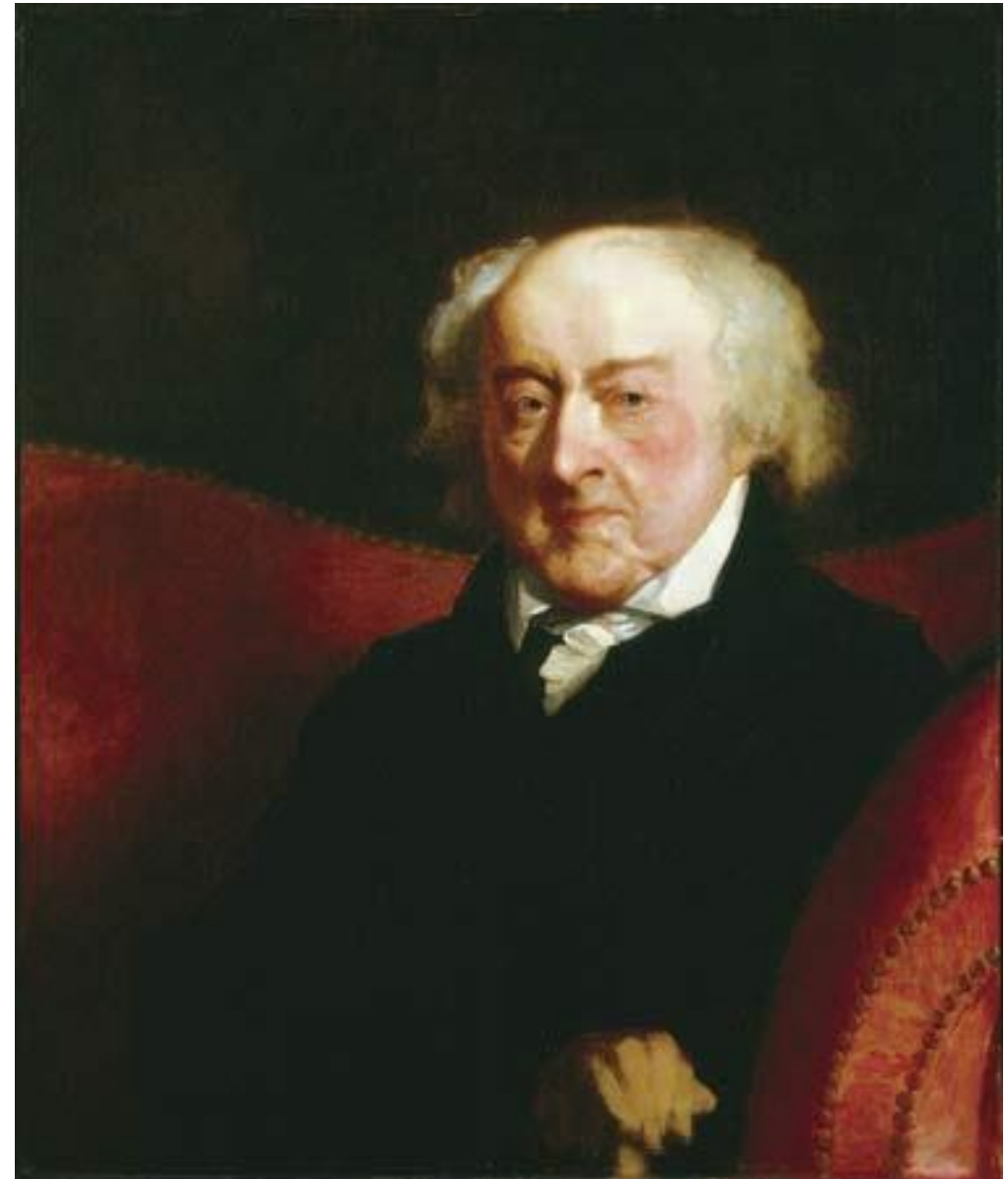
THE SEDITION ACT

During the time of the Quasi War with France, President John Adams signed this measure into law.

The Sedition Act banned criticism of the government – by individuals or in the press – and arrested individuals who broke the law.

The law was a clear violation of the First Amendment to the Constitution.

Along with other rules, the Alien Enemies Act, for example, this law showed the extremes which the US government could go to during times of war to protect national security.



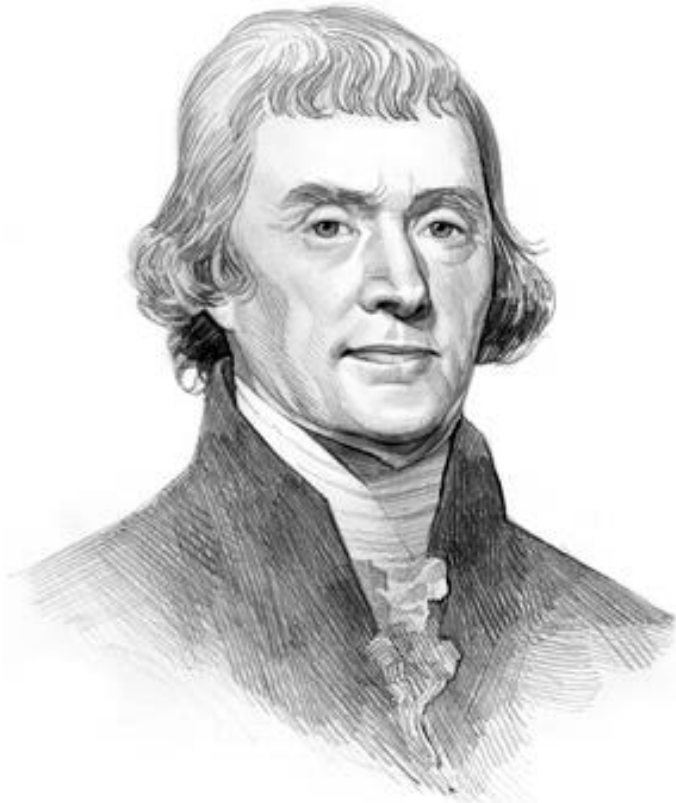
FRIES REBELLION

This was a taxpayer's revolt in Pennsylvania during John Adams Presidency.

George Washington might have handled this differently, but John Adams was no military man. He sent in federal agents who arrested the culprits and a major incident ensued.

The men were arrested, tried, imprisoned, and sentenced to death for treason. Eventually, Adams pardoned them, so their lives were spared; however, the message was sent by the federal government: pay your taxes!





SECTION TWO. THOMAS JEFFERSON

Vocabulary Terms

THE VIRGINIA AND KENTUCKY RESOLUTIONS

After the clearly unconstitutional Sedition Act was passed, Jefferson and James Madison did not know what to do.

The principle of Judicial Review by the Supreme Court had not yet been established. So, Jefferson and Madison wrote these two documents.

In one resolution was the assertion that if any state declared a federal law unconstitutional, they could nullify the law.

The other asserted that whenever a majority of the states declared a law unconstitutional, the law was void. Both caused a major problem by turning federalism upside down!



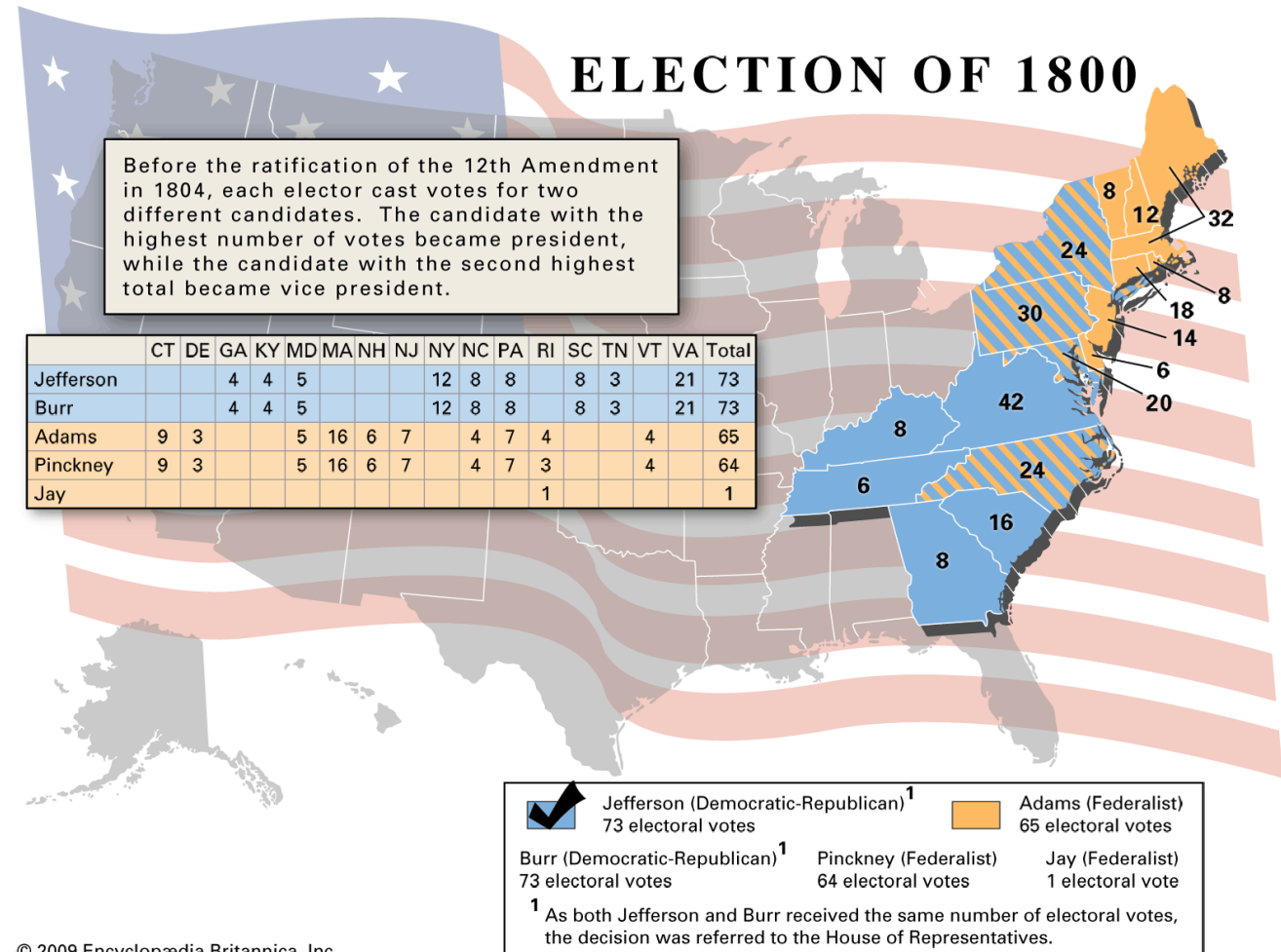
THE ELECTION OF 1800

This was the first peaceful transition of power from one political party to the other in American History.

John Adams, the Federalist was out.

Jefferson, the Democratic-Republican was in.

After Jefferson's victory, he sought to unify the nation under his leadership. In his first inaugural address, he stated: "We are all Federalists; we are all Republicans."



THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE

The President of the United States sent off a delegation hoping to purchase New Orleans and access to the Mississippi River for \$2 Million. Instead, he was given the opportunity to purchase the entire Louisiana Territory for \$15 Million.

Despite the fact that he was exceeding his Presidential authority by doing so, Jefferson authorized the Purchase.

After buying Louisiana, the Lewis and Clark Expedition (The Corps of Discovery) explored the entire region, going so far as to make an American claim to the Oregon Country.



THE EMBARGO OF 1807

Jefferson was a strong believer in the economic principle of free trade.

Yet, when English vessels were interrupting American trade, harassing our ships and kidnapping our sailors, he felt that something had to be done.

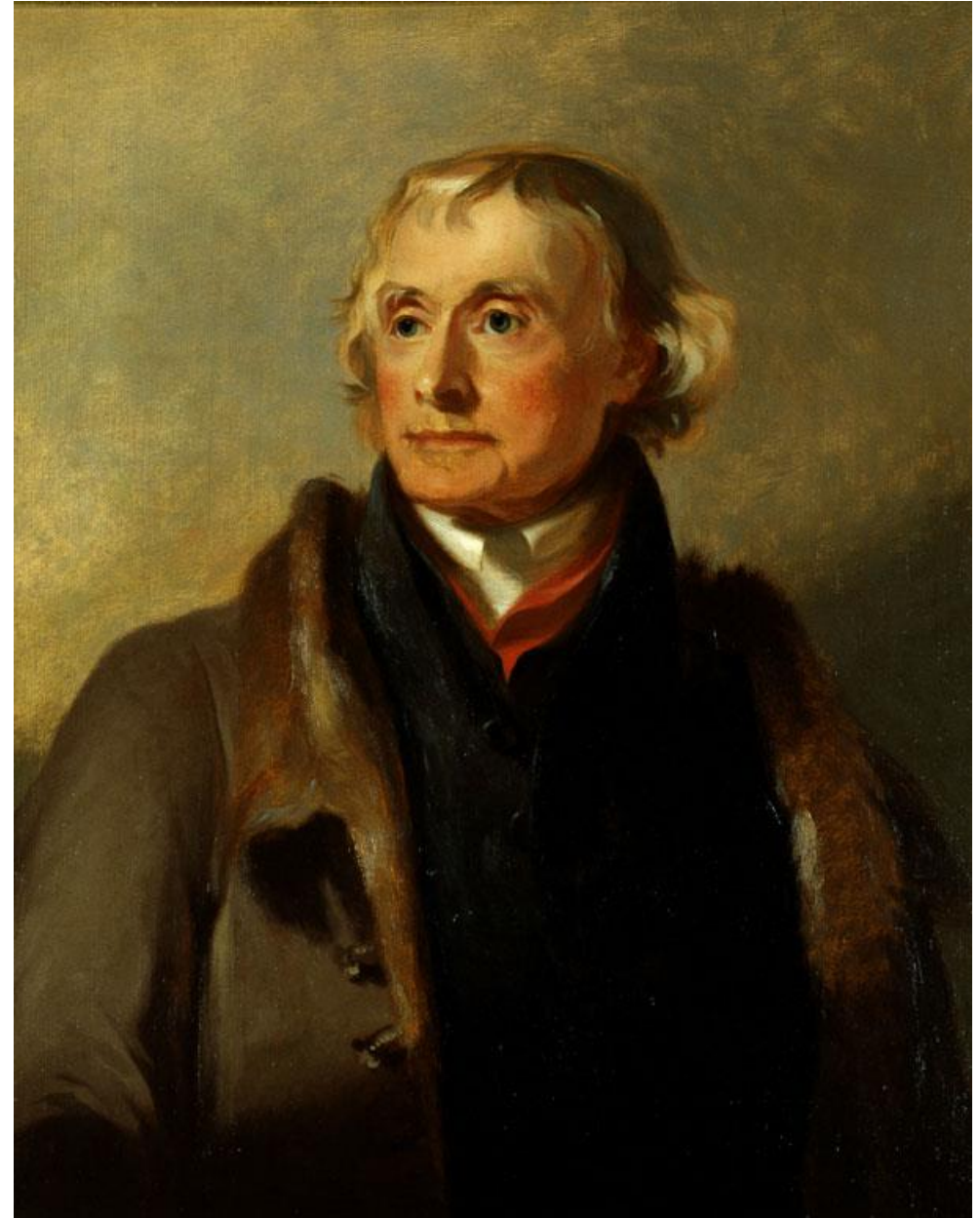
His solution was the famous Embargo Act of 1807, which shut off all trade with England from 1807 until the end of the War of 1812.

The act violated Jefferson's principles, however, he felt it was necessary for the good of the country.



JEFFERSON'S VIEWS ON GOVERNMENT, SUMMARY

- Small Government
- No Debts Held by the Government
- Free Trade
- “Strict Constructionism” – he believed that the Constitution listed all the powers of the President, and that these powers should not be exceeded.



JEFFERSON'S VIEW ON SLAVERY

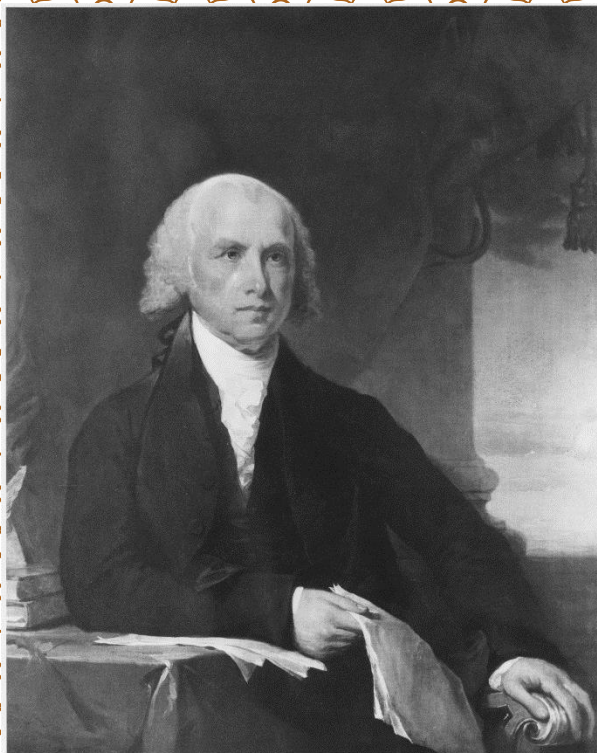
Thomas Jefferson wrote the words, “We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

And Jefferson owned over 200 slaves.

And Jefferson had a longstanding love affair with one of these slaves, Sally Hemings.

Jefferson said that slavery in America was like holding a wolf by its ears – you didn’t particularly like it, but it was better than any other alternative.





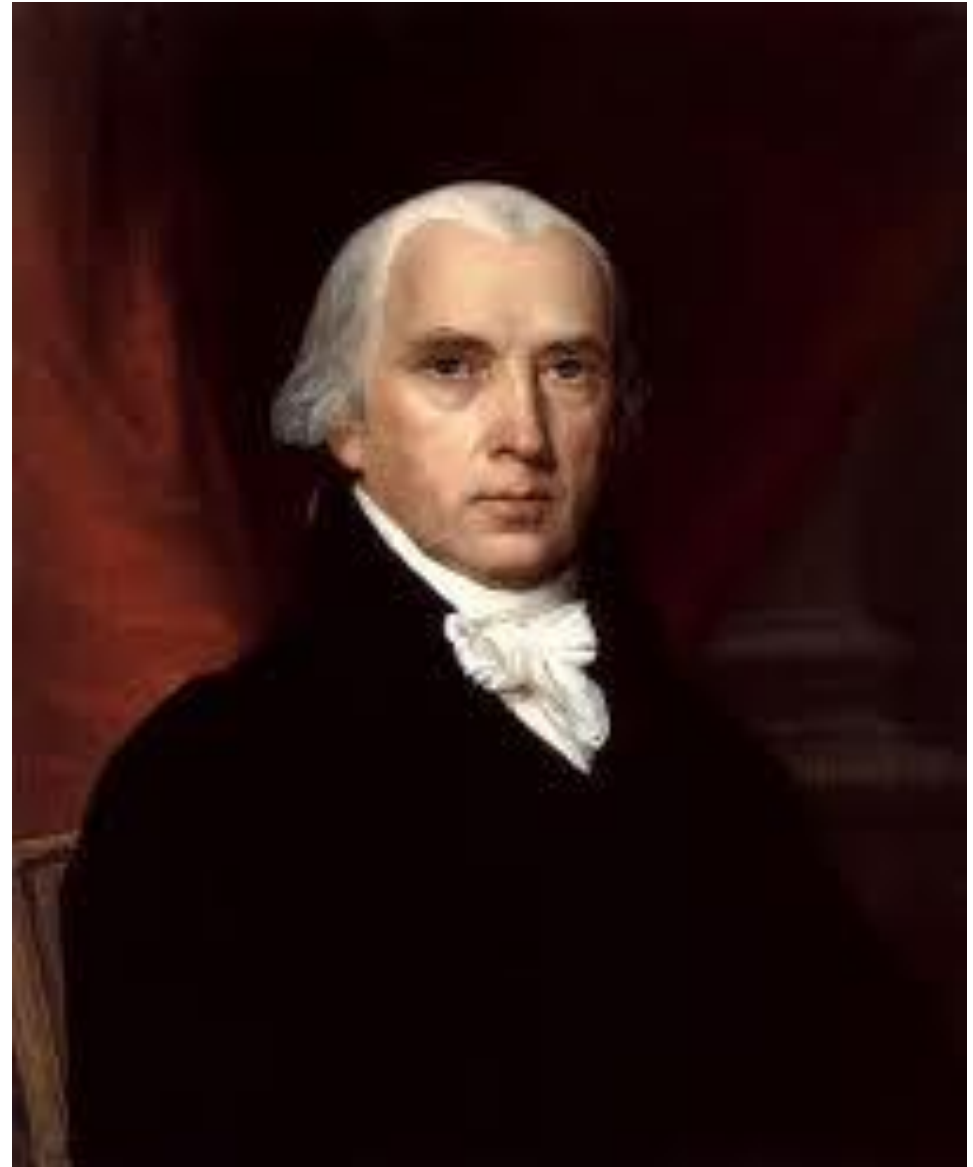
SECTION THREE. JAMES MADISON

The War of 1812 and the Future
of the United States

THE FATHER OF THE CONSTITUTION

James Madison is considered the Father of the Constitution for the important roles which he played in creating the document and recording the Constitution's arguments for posterity.

- He wrote the Virginia Plan for proportional representation.
- He took notes at the Constitutional Convention.
- He wrote the *Federalist Papers*.
- He was the principle author of the Bill of Rights.



THE VIRGINIA AND KENTUCKY RESOLUTIONS

The fact that after writing the Constitution, which asserts that the document is “the supreme law of the land” and clearly articulates the powers of the federal government over the states in several areas, Madison also wrote the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions, is problematic.

In the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions, James Madison suggests that the states can declare federal laws unconstitutional, nullify them, and make them void.

So, which is it, Jimbo? We’re all waiting for an answer.

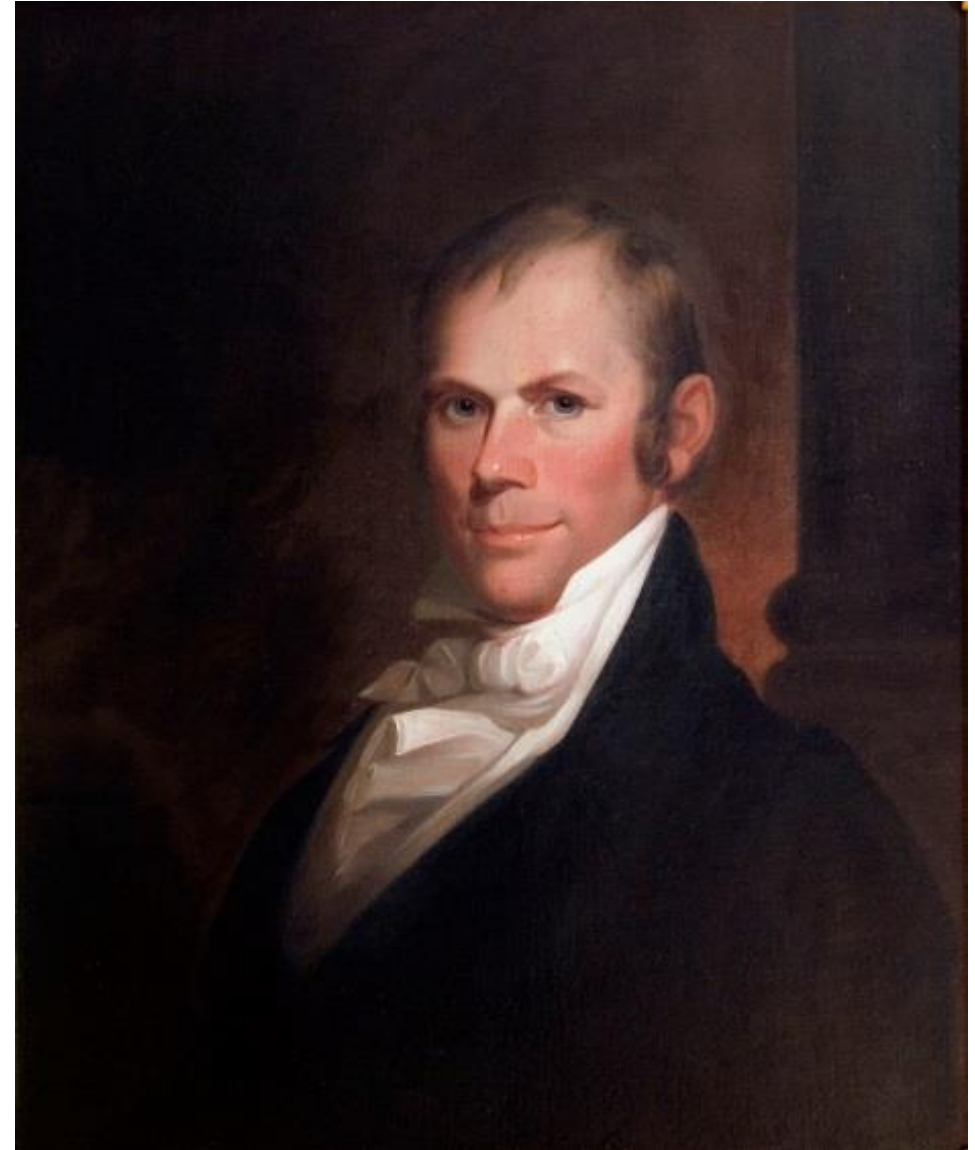
Fortunately for James Madison, John Marshall’s assertion of the right of Judicial Review by the United States Supreme Court bailed him out! The SCOTUS would determine the Constitutionality of laws following the famous case of *Marbury V. Madison*.



WAR HAWKS

War Hawks were Senators and Congressmen from Western states (like Henry Clay of Kentucky) who favored war with England in the early 1800s because:

- They felt that the English were harassing American shipping.
- They felt that the English were still occupying military forts in American territory.
- They felt that the English were selling weapons to Native Americans and provoking attacks and skirmishes between Indians and Americans on the frontier.



THE WAR OF 1812

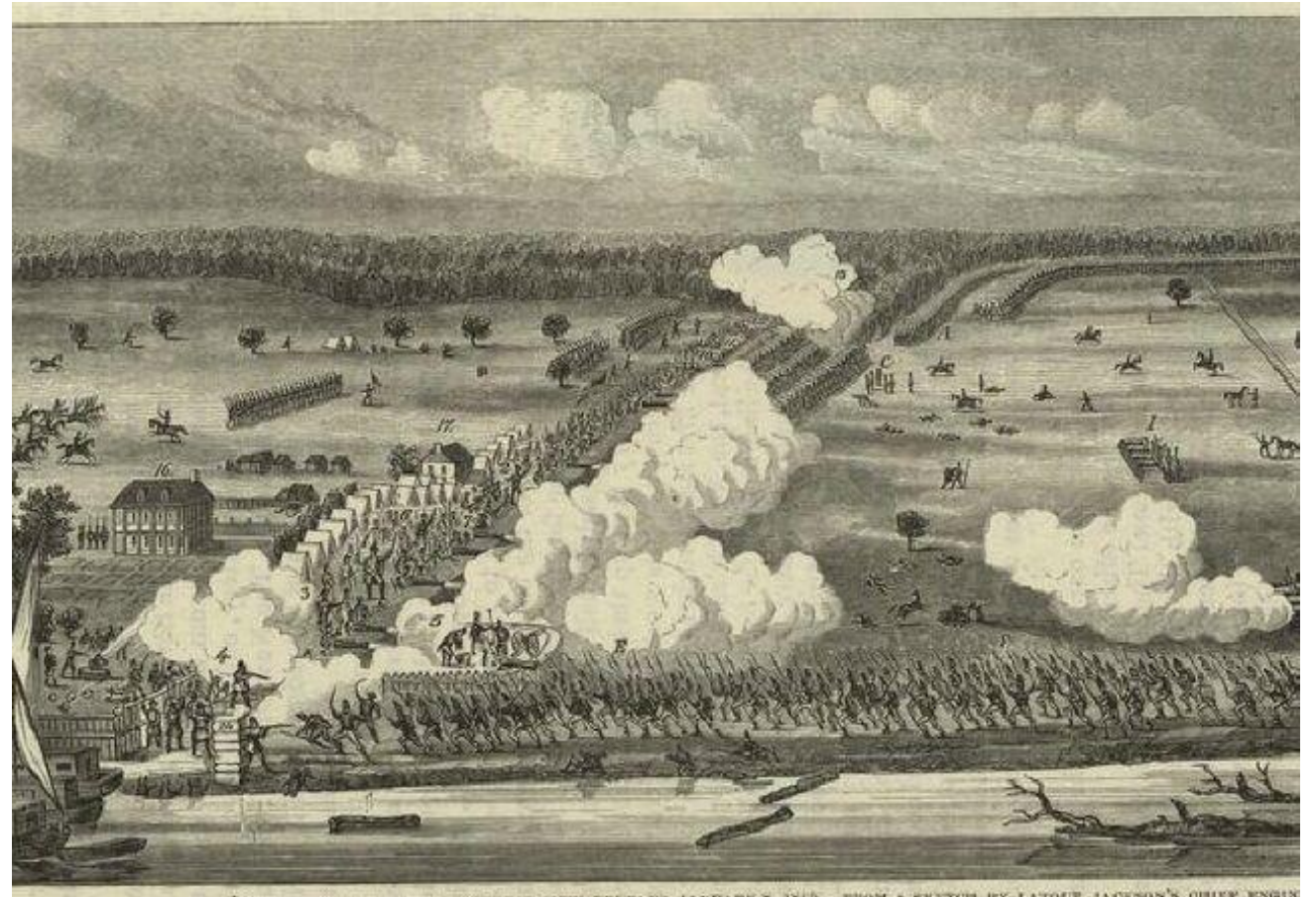
This was a war between the United States and Great Britain which went on from 1812 until 1815, and it is sometimes called the “2nd American Revolution.”

The United States fought against England – without an ally this time – and successfully defended itself.

Major battles were lost in Washington, D.C. and in Canada.

Major victories were won against Indians on the Western Frontier and at the Battle of New Orleans.

The war ended with the Treaty of Ghent, signed in 1814. No territory or money was exchanged.



THE BATTLES OF WASHINGTON, D.C. & FORT MCHENRY

The English sailed up the Potomac River in 1814 and crushed American forces attempting to defend the capital.

The White House and the Congress were both burned to the ground by the British. Then, a hurricane – or at least a powerful line of storms which produced tornadoes – came through the city.

The British Army was scattered and disorganized, giving Americans the chance to get reorganized. In their defense of Baltimore, the Americans won a victory at Fort McHenry, and Francis Scott Key composed the Star Spangled Banner in tribute.





THE TREATY OF GHENT

The Treaty of Ghent ended the war in 1814 – although news of the peace conference did not reach Andrew Jackson until after the Battle of New Orleans.

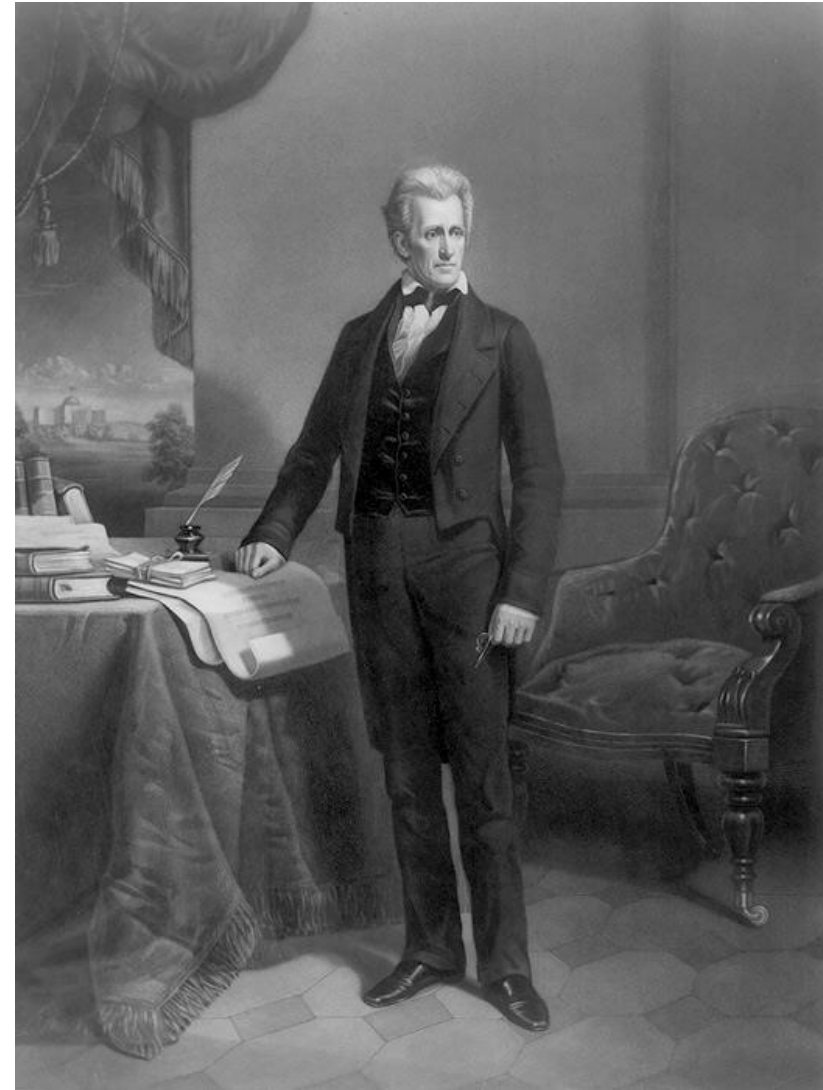
THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS

This was the most decisive victory of the War of 1812 for the United States and it resulted in a big boost in our nation's military reputation.

Andrew Jackson organized the defense of New Orleans against an invasion by the British, and his men simply pummeled the English invaders.

While the Battle of New Orleans was fought after the War of 1812 came to a close and therefore had no real impact on the treaty, it still sent a message to the rest of the world.

The message: American forces are formidable, and the United States must be reckoned with.





SECTION FOUR. JAMES MONROE

THE MONROE DOCTRINE

There were three basic ideas in the Monroe Doctrine:

1. The United States would stay out of European Affairs (wars, alliances, treaties), as we always had.
2. The Western Hemisphere (North America, South America, Central America, and the Caribbean) was no longer open for colonization by European Powers.
3. The United States would defend the right of self-government for the young republics of the Americas, like those established in Brazil, Mexico, and by the revolutions of Simon Bolivar

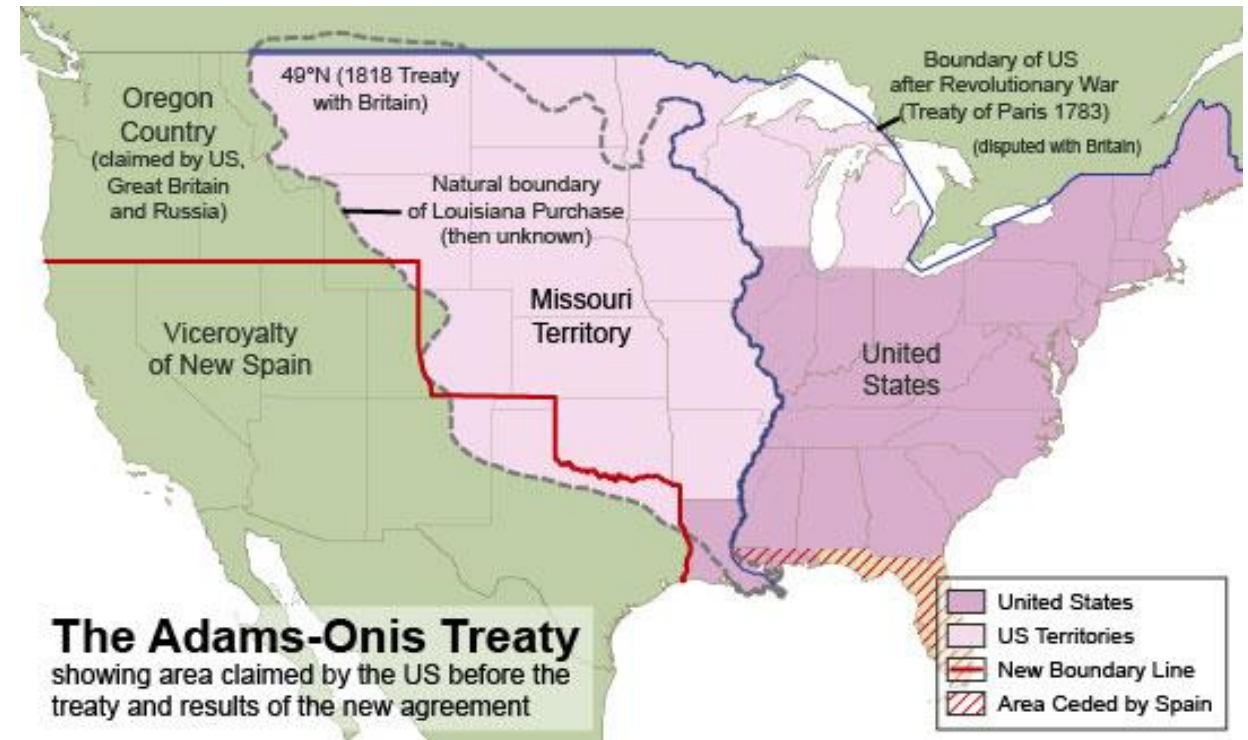


THE ADAMS-ONIS TREATY OF 1819

The United States of America acquired Florida in this treaty, negotiated by John Quincy Adams.

Note that the panhandle of Florida was really, really long back then – it was pretty much the whole Gulf Coast to New Orleans.

Also, remember this. Very few Spaniards actually lived in Florida. The population of the region was composed mostly of members of the Seminole Tribe. Andrew Jackson invaded Florida to subjugate these tribes even before the treaty went into effect.

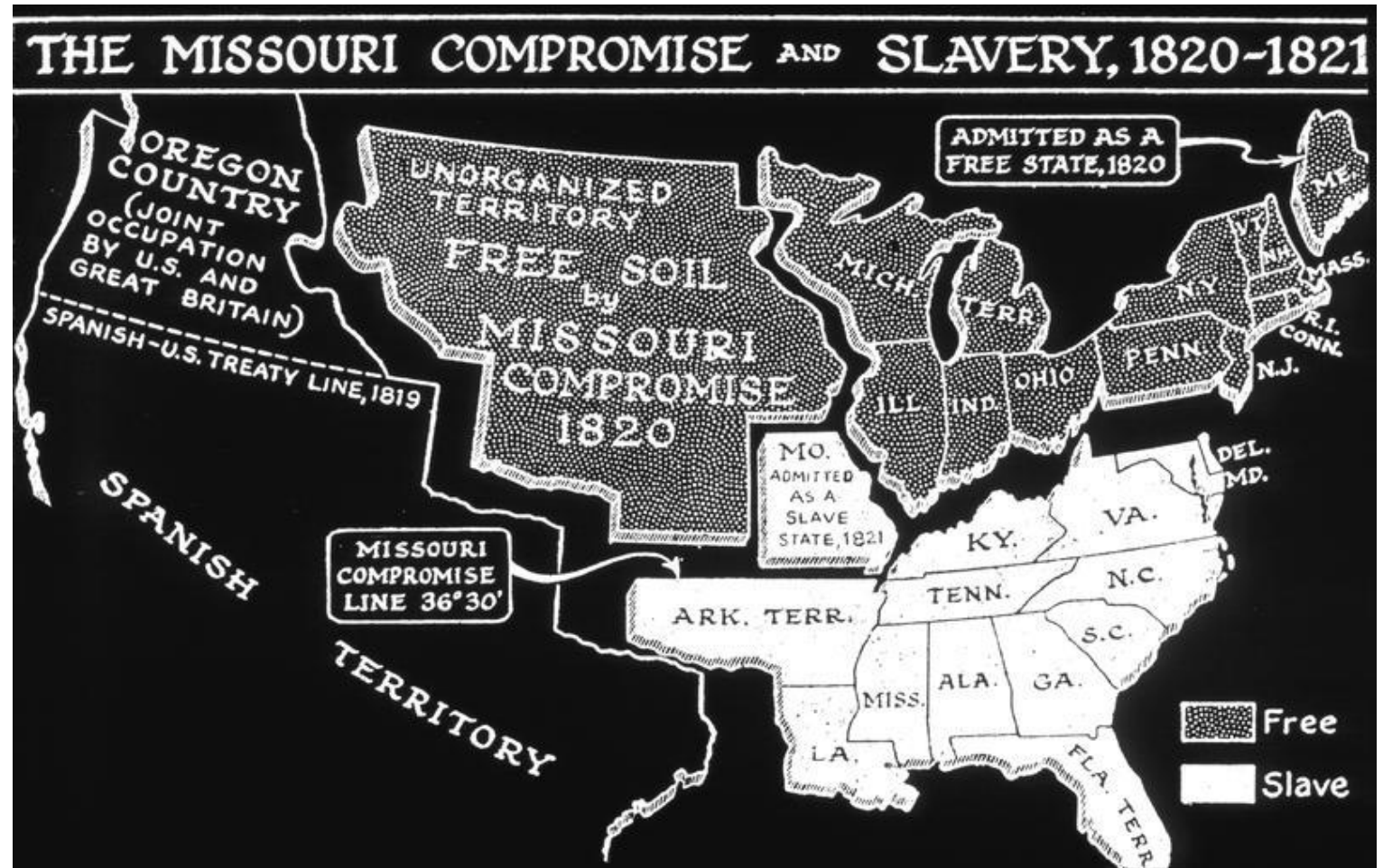


THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE

There are three parts to the Missouri Compromise:

1. Maine became a free state in 1820.
2. Missouri entered the Union as a slave state in 1821.
3. The Missouri Compromise line was created at $36^{\circ}30'$ N Latitude. To the north of that line slavery would be prohibited. To the south of the line, slavery would be permitted.

NOTE: At the time, very little US Territory was south of the line. Only the Arkansas Territory (Arkansas, Oklahoma) could have allowed slavery in the future.



MCCULLOUGH V. MARYLAND

The Supreme Court, under the leadership of John Marshall, asserted that the power of the federal government could not be challenged by the states, because the laws under the Constitution were the supreme law of the land.

In this case, the state of Maryland attempted to tax the Bank of the United States. Marshall ruled that states could not tax federal institutions, because the power to tax was the power to destroy.

This principle still holds.

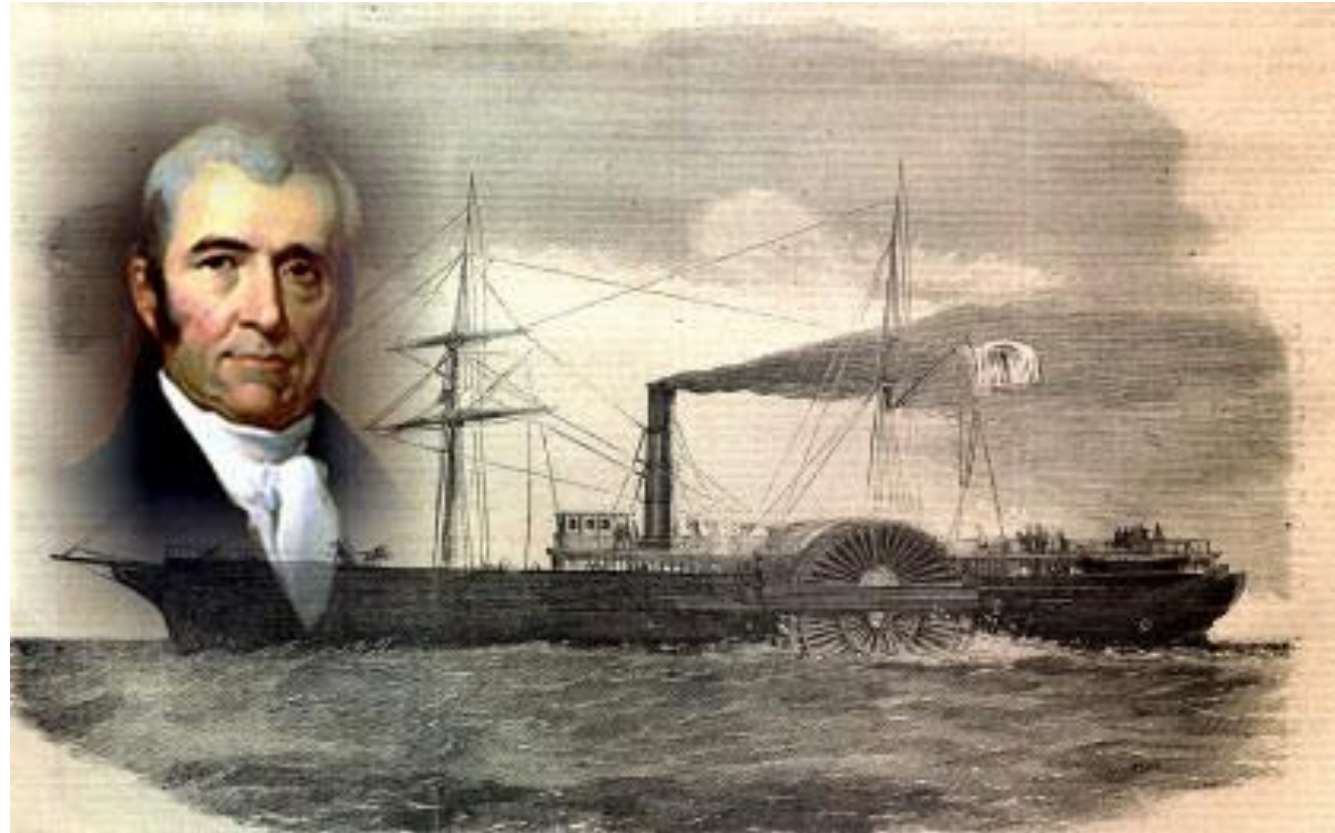


GIBBONS V. OGDEN

The Supreme Court, under the leadership of John Marshall, asserted that the power of the federal government could not be challenged by the states, because the laws under the Constitution were the supreme law of the land.

In this case, the state of New York had granted an operators license to a ferry boat service between New York and New Jersey. Since only the federal government, the Congress, has the power to regulate interstate trade, the Supreme Court revoked the license.

Once again, the power of the federal government trumped that of the states.





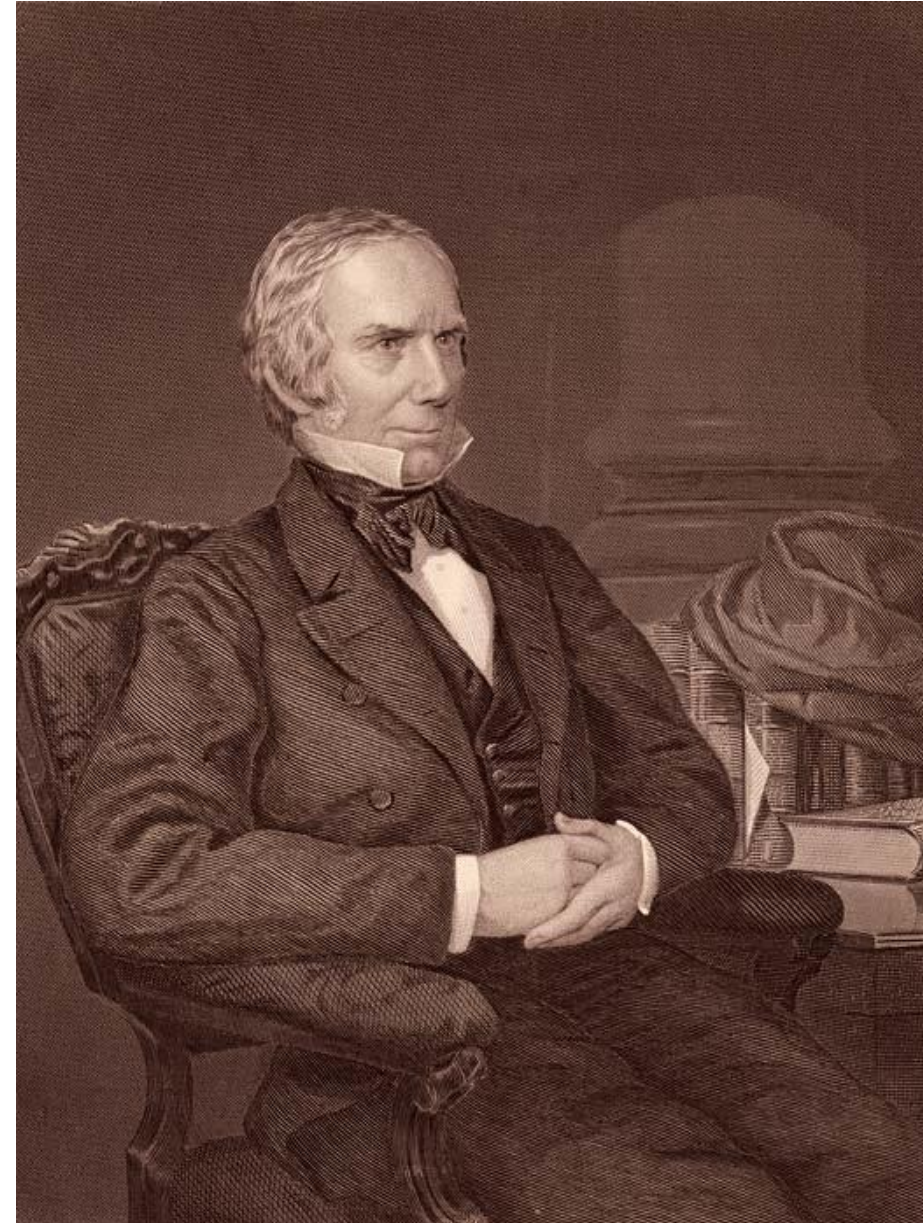
SECTION FIVE. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS

THE CORRUPT BARGAIN OF 1824

In 1824, four candidates ran for office: Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay, John Quincy Adams, and William Crawford. Andrew Jackson won the most popular votes and the most electoral college votes, but neither man won a majority.

Therefore, the election went to the House of Representatives. Here, Henry Clay and John Quincy Adams hatched a sneaky plot. They would push all of their supporters to vote Quincy Adams into office, and JQA promised to appoint Henry Clay as the Secretary of State, which was viewed then as the stepping stone to the Presidency.

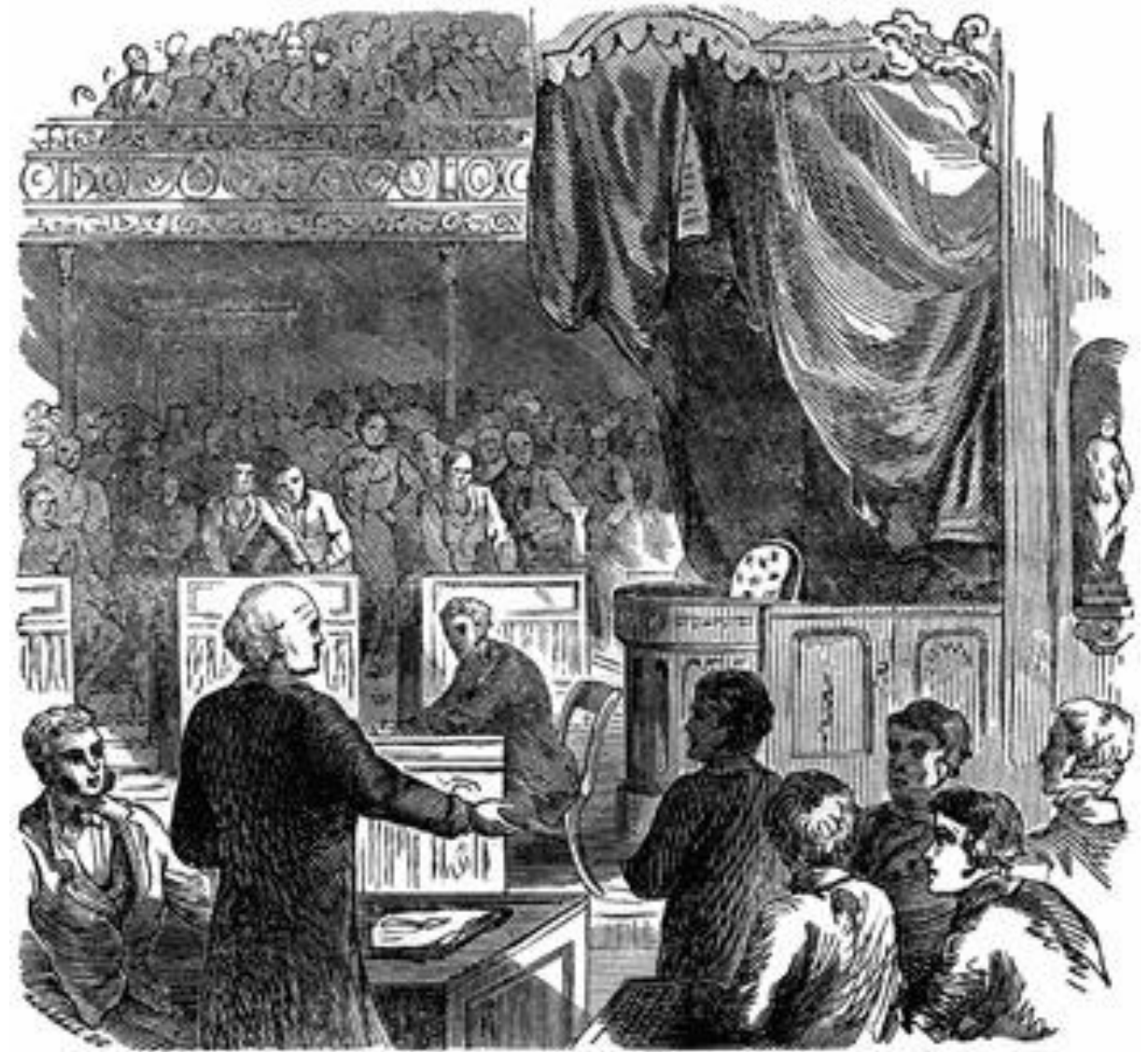
Andrew Jackson was beside himself with rage!!!



THE POLITICS OF JOHN QUINCY ADAMS

John Quincy Adams was a New Englander who believed in:

- A Protective Tariff to help New England businessmen.
- The government promotion of internal improvements to create better transportation and communication systems.
- The promotion of education for all people in cultural arts, literature, and science.
- He hated the institution of slavery!

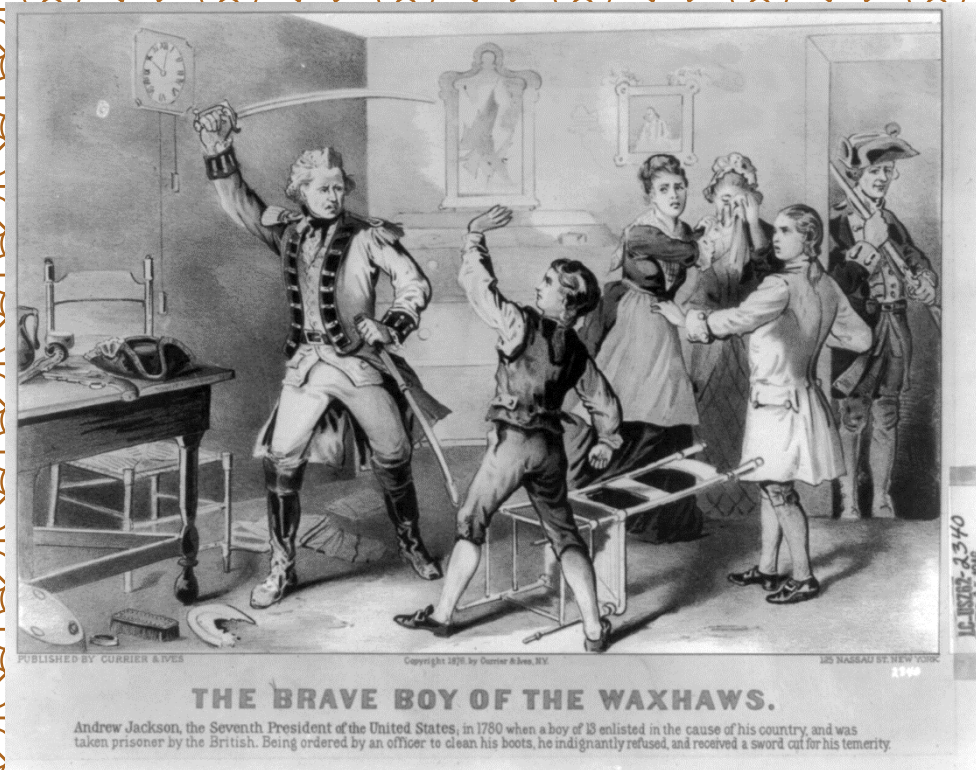


THE SLAVERY QUESTION, ACCORDING TO JOHN QUINCY ADAMS

John Quincy Adams was one of very few Presidents before the Civil War who actually opposed slavery. During his lifetime, he would –

- Introduce numerous abolitionist petitions before the Congress, which sought to end the institution of slavery in America.
- After he lost the Election of 1828, he ran for Congress, won, and presented petition after petition demanding an end of slavery. The “Gag Rule” was created to shut him up!
- John Quincy Adams defended the slaves on the *Amistad*, who had mutinied against the slave traders who ran the ship for their freedom. He won the case!





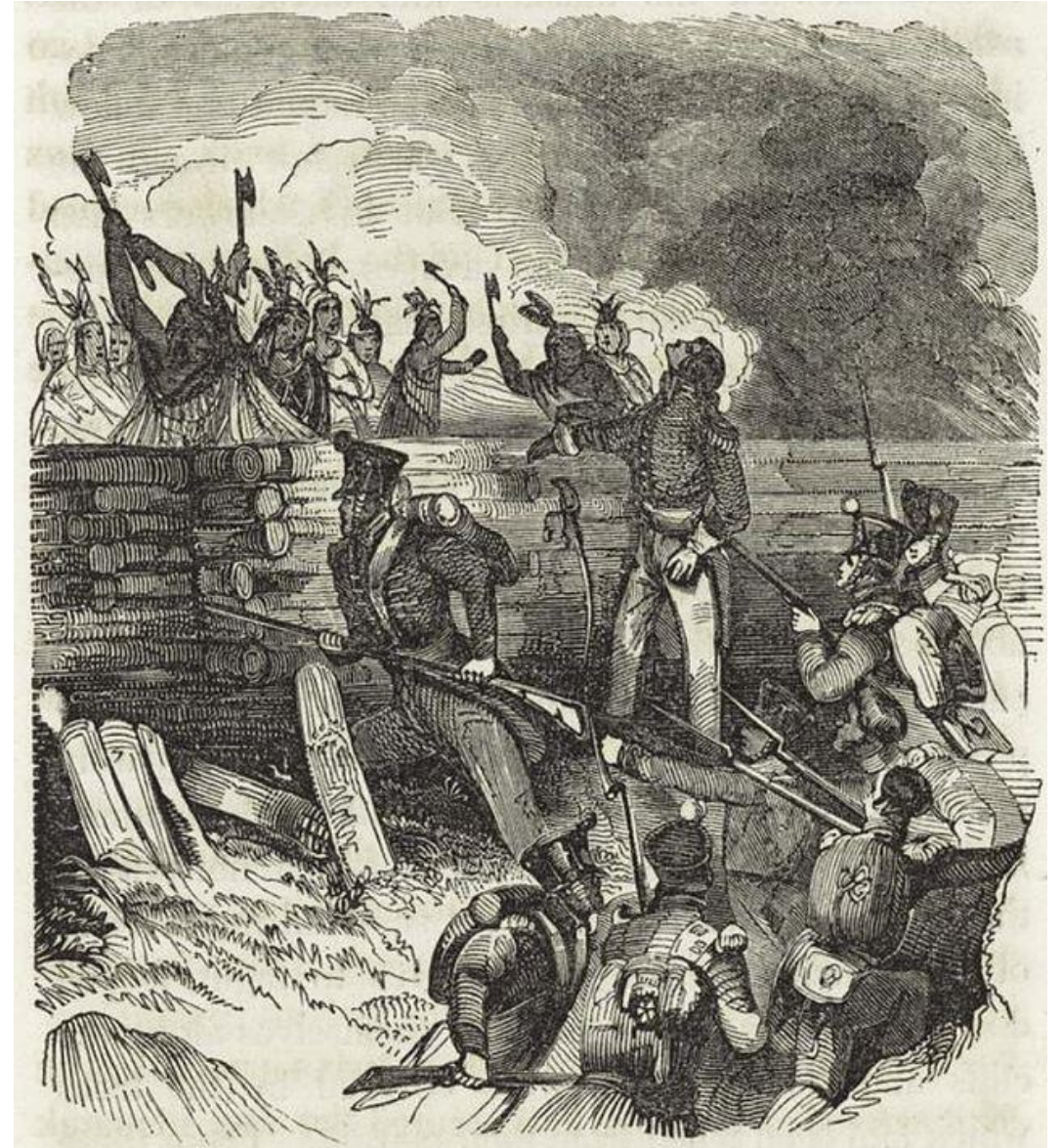
SECTION SIX. ANDREW JACKSON

THE BATTLE OF HORSESHOE BEND

The Battle of Horseshoe Bend took place during the War of 1812, and was a horrifying massacre. Andrew Jackson's soldiers had assaulted territory controlled by the Creek Confederation, and pinned down a force of so-called "Red Stick" Creeks near a bend along a river in Alabama.

Even as the Native American tribe attempted to surrender, Jackson's men shot them to death. Hundreds of Native Americans were massacred.

One of the main results of the War of 1812 was that Native American tribes in the Northwest Territory and the Deep South – "The Old Southwest" were dispossessed of their land.



THE SEMINOLE WARS

Starting in 1817 and continuing until the late 1850s, the Seminole Wars were a series of conflicts in which the United States attempted to dispossess the Seminole tribe of their lands in Florida.

Andrew Jackson led the invasion during the First Seminole War.

Osceola was the leader of the Seminoles, who continued to retreat ever deeper into the Florida Everglades as the American attacks ramped up.

The Seminole Tribe lost considerable territory and many lives, but never surrendered to the United States Armed forces.



THE CORRUPT BARGAIN OF — JACKSON'S VERSION

Andrew Jackson was outraged by the bargain which resulted in John Quince Adams ascending to the Presidency in 1824. He conceived of the alliance between Adams and Clay as a backroom political deal.

To Jackson, the issue was simple:

He won the most popular votes.

He won the most Electoral College votes.

He should be President of the United States.

That's not how it worked out in 1824, but eventually, he got his revenge!



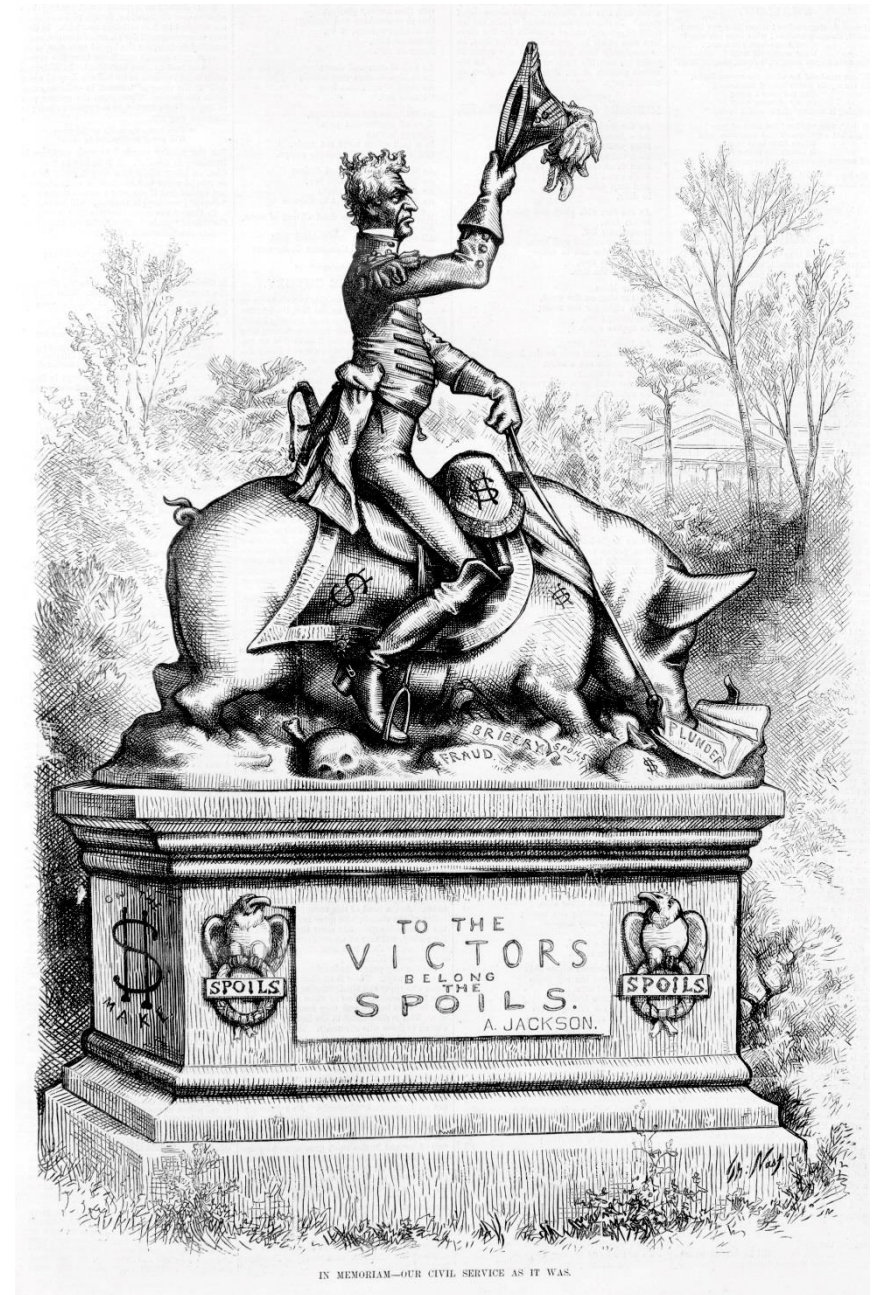
THE SPOILS SYSTEM

After Andrew Jackson won the Presidency in 1828, he began appointing his political supporters, partisans, and friends to position in the United States government.

Jackson believed that the “common man” could do all the work of the government, regardless of what past traditions might suggest.

Jackson justified giving good government jobs with good government pensions to his supporters by claiming, “to the victor goes the spoils!” - an old wartime expression.

Most historians agree that Jackson’s insistence that the “common man” be hired for jobs resulted in incompetence in the government.



THE BANK OF THE UNITED STATES (B.U.S.)

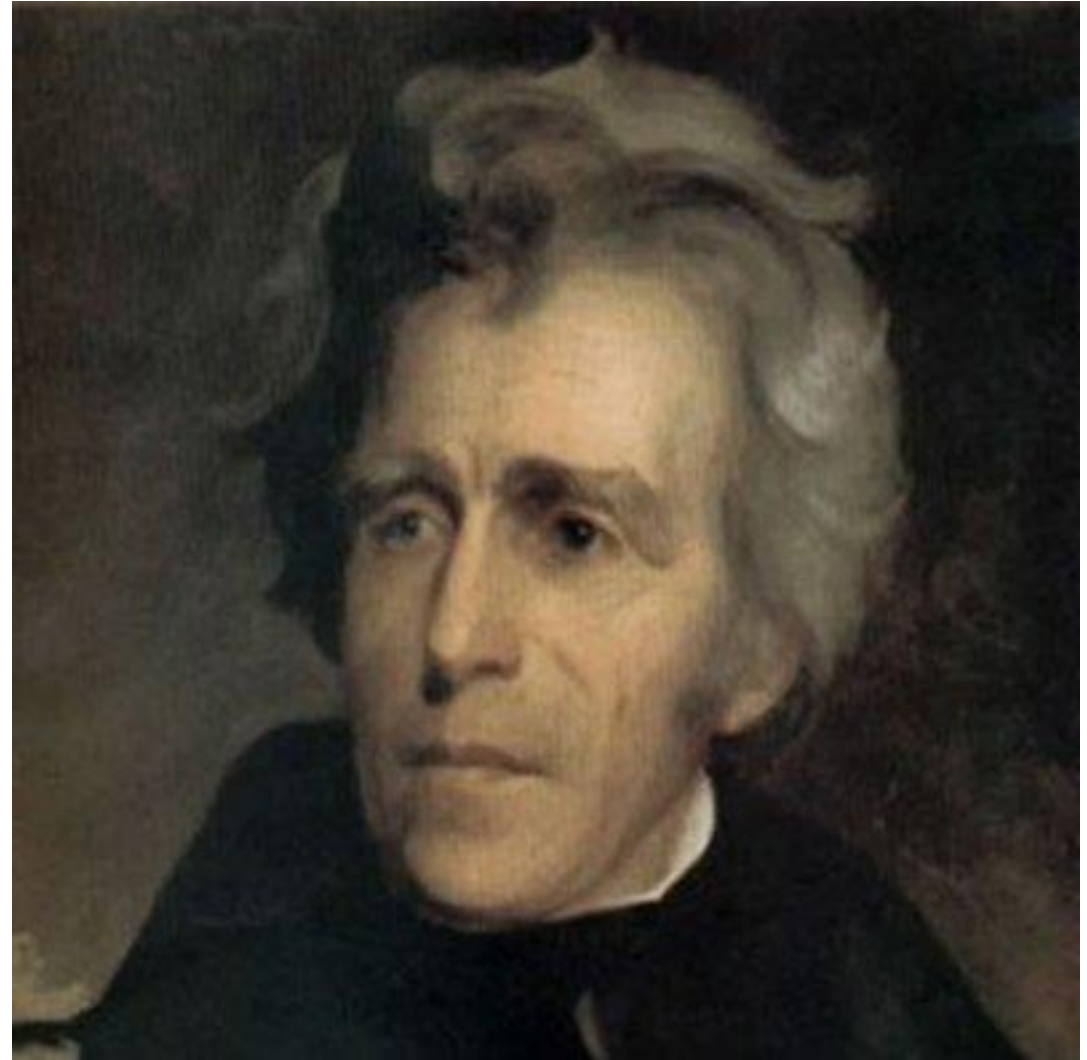
Andrew Jackson H-A-T-E-D the Bank of the United States.

He vetoed the re-chartering of the Bank, because he viewed the bank as a tool of the rich which promoted aristocracy in the United States of America.

During his Presidency, Andrew Jackson withdrew all of the funds controlled by the government which were in the bank and redistributed them to what he called “pet banks” – local banks that would be more likely to loan out money to “the common man.”

Skeptics called these banks “wildcat” banks and claimed that they made reckless choices that might endanger the public’s finances.

In 1837, one year after Jackson left office, the nation entered into a prolonged recession – perhaps a depression – known as the Panic of 1837.



USING THE VETO POWER

Andrew Jackson won the Presidency in 1828 and remained in office from 1829 – 1837.

During his time in office, Andrew Jackson vetoed more laws passed by the Congress than **ALL OF THE OTHER PRESIDENTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY COMBINED!**

The Whig Party formed in opposition to Andrew Jackson, who's arbitrary decision making caused them to refer to the President as King Andrew I.

This political cartoon show the Whigs view of President Andrew Jackson. NOTE: He has torn up and trampled upon the U.S. Constitution!



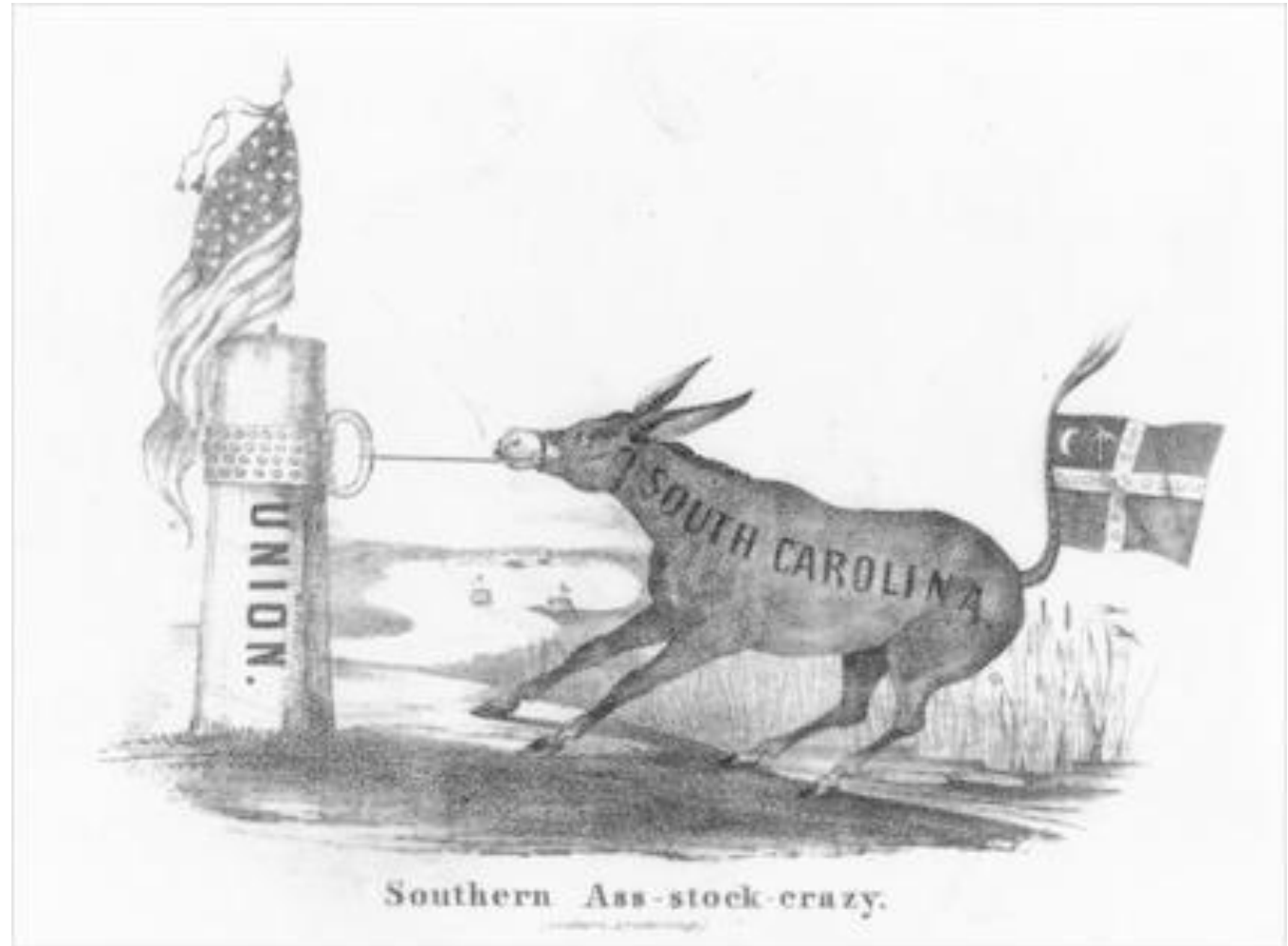
THE TARIFF OF ABOMINATIONS

The Tariff of Abominations was one of the highest taxes on imports in all American history. It charged a huge percentage on all imported goods and Southerners hated it.

Remember, in general:

Northerners favored tariffs, because they protected American businesses competing with Europe.

Southerners hated tariffs, because they generally had to PAY the tariff – in the form of increased prices (and the actual tax on imported goods, which they traded their cotton for in European markets.)



THE NULLIFICATION CRISIS

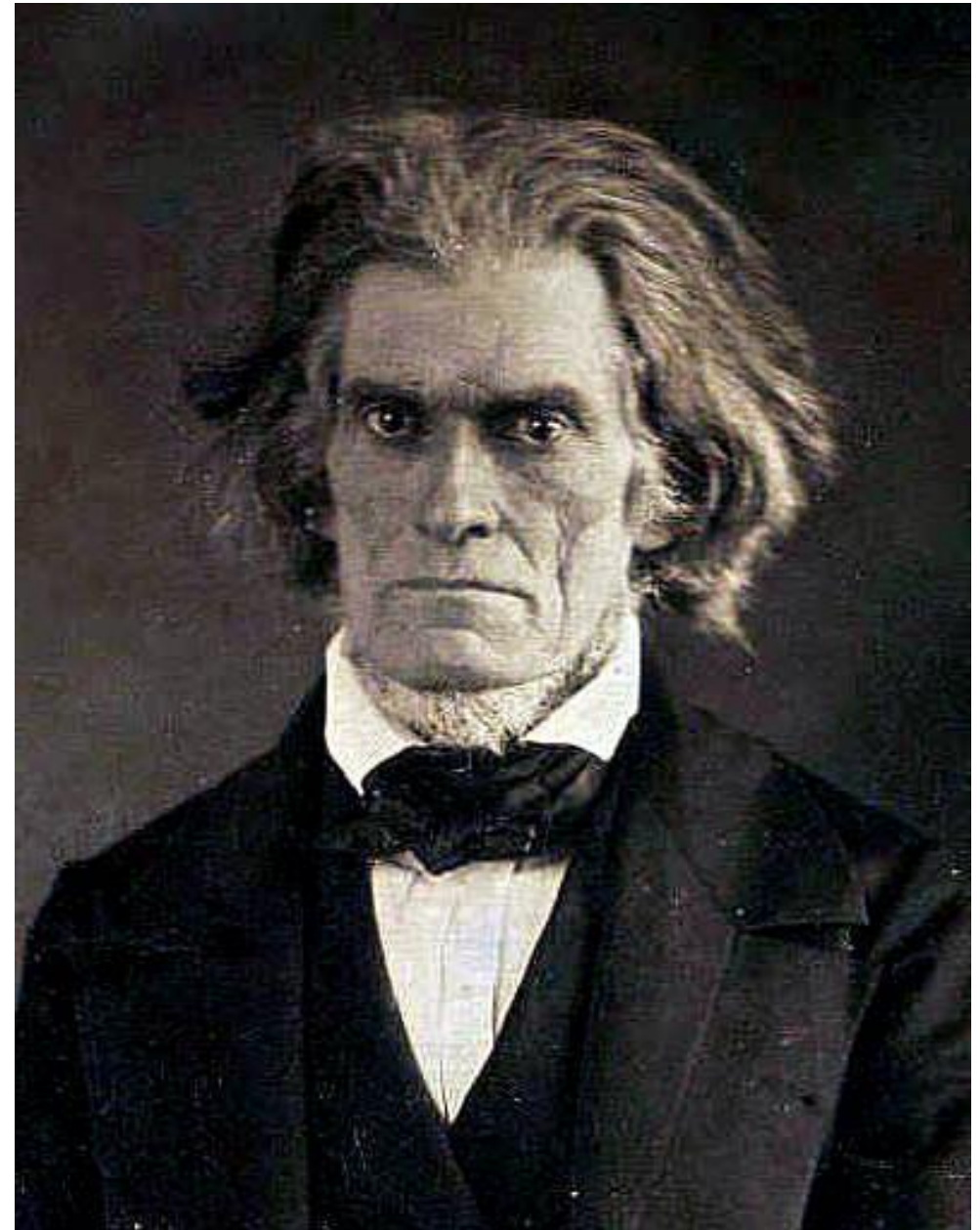
In 1832, John C. Calhoun registered his objections to the Tariff of Abominations in a very public way.

Calhoun had been the Vice President under Andrew Jackson when he was elected in 1828. He hated Jackson's support for the tariff and – after a very public argument with Jackson – resigned the Presidency in protest.

He then went back to South Carolina, won the governorship and signed the Nullification Act into law.

The Nullification Act basically stated that South Carolina would defy federal law and refuse to pay the taxes under the Tariff of Abominations!

Andrew Jackson was very, very, very P-I-S-S-E-D.

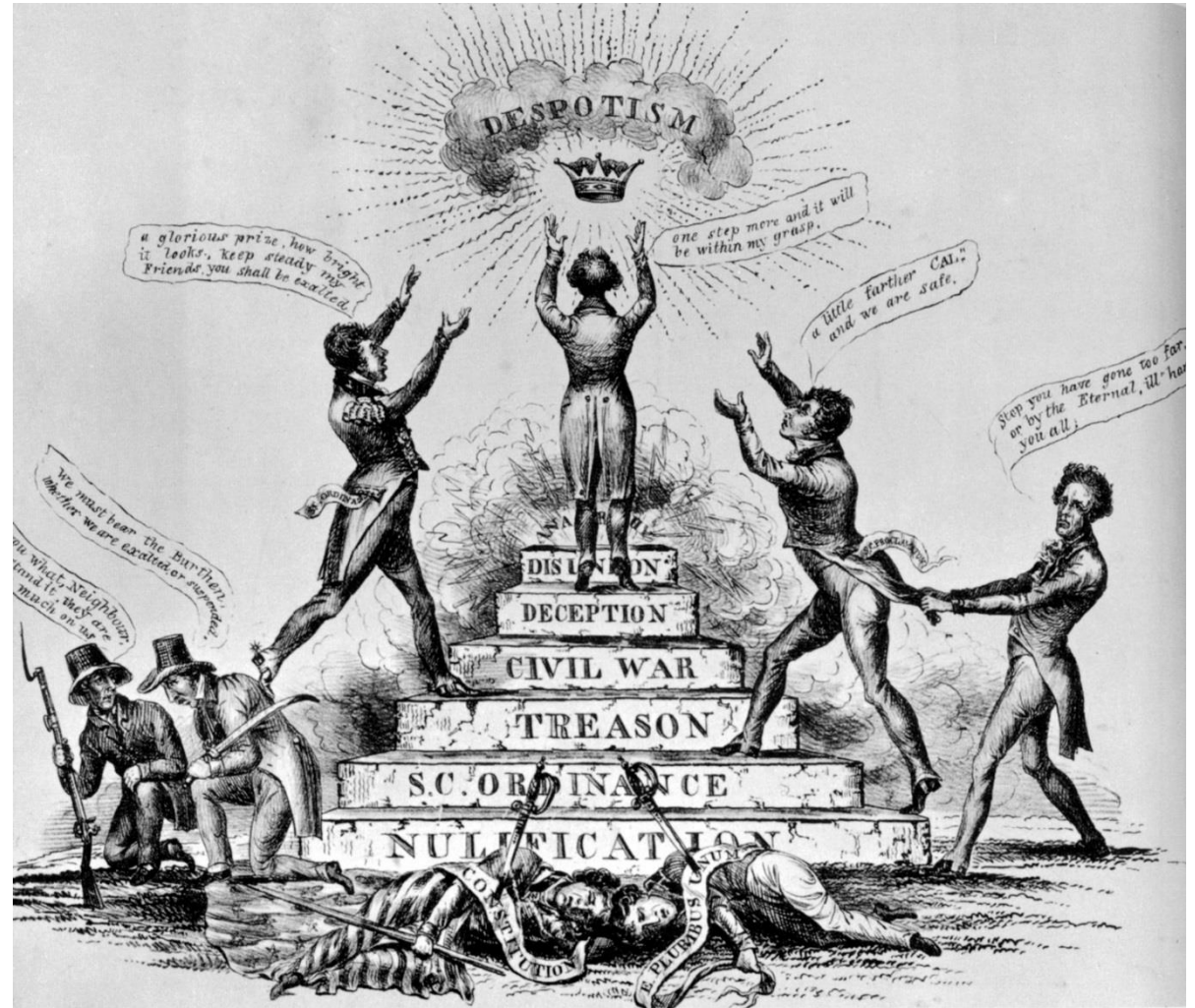


THE FORCE ACT

Andrew Jackson wanted to deal aggressively with the defiance of the State of South Carolina during the Nullification Crisis.

Harkening back to the days of George Washington, he asked Congress to authorize a Force Act. The law he sought would allow him to:

1. Raise an army of 30,000 soldiers.
2. Invade South Carolina.
3. Arrest every member of the South Carolina state legislature.
4. Hang John C. Calhoun from a palmetto tree!

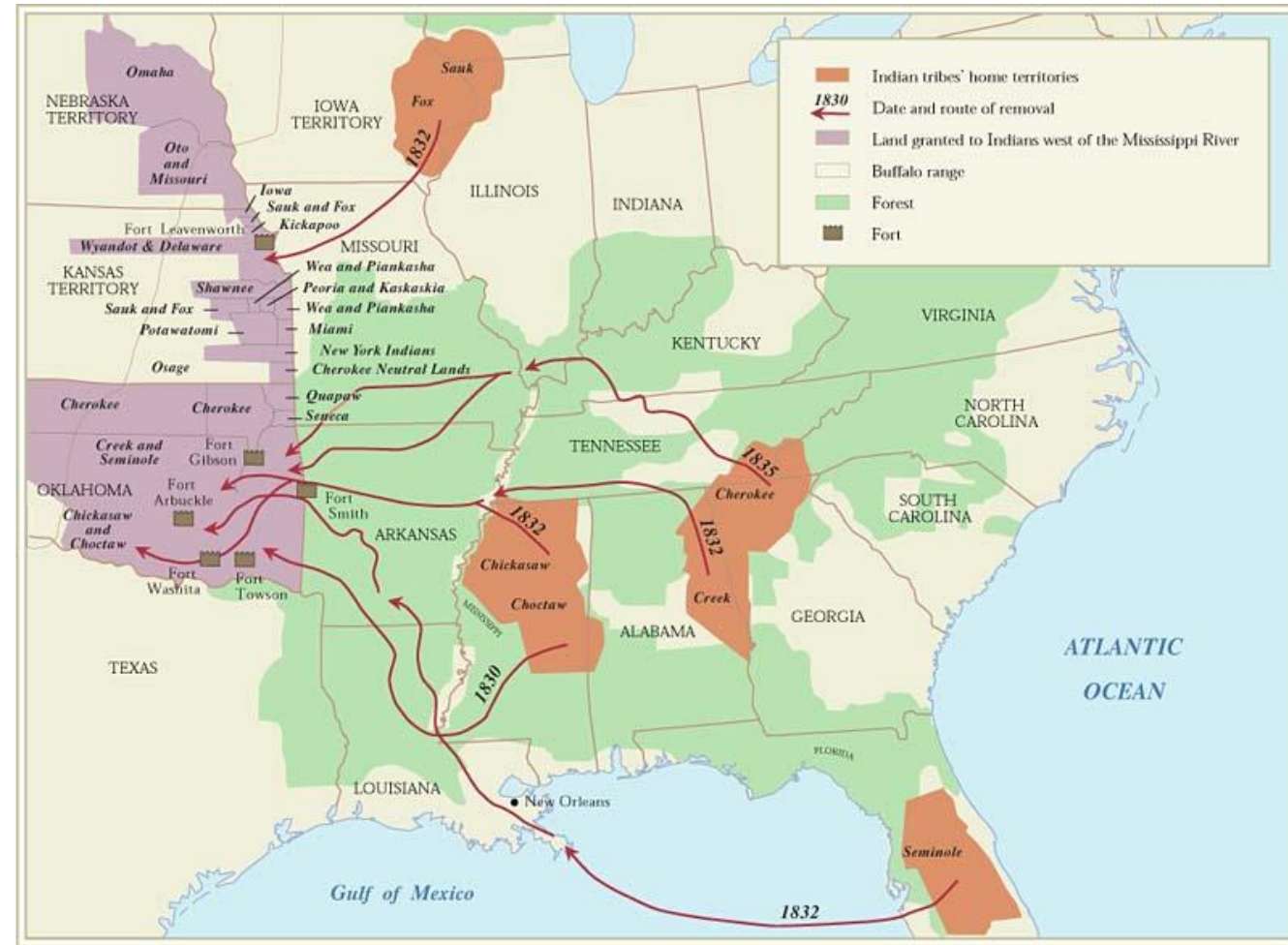


THE INDIAN REMOVAL ACT OF 1830

This was a federal law passed by the United States Congress which authorized the states to physically remove Native American tribes from their territory.

The law was in complete violation of the treaties which Native Americans had signed with the federal government, and therefore unconstitutional.

The Cherokee Tribe, located in northern Georgia, southeastern Tennessee, and portions in the southwest of North and South Carolina resisted this law by suing the federal government.



THE CASE OF *WORCESTER V. GEORGIA* (1832)

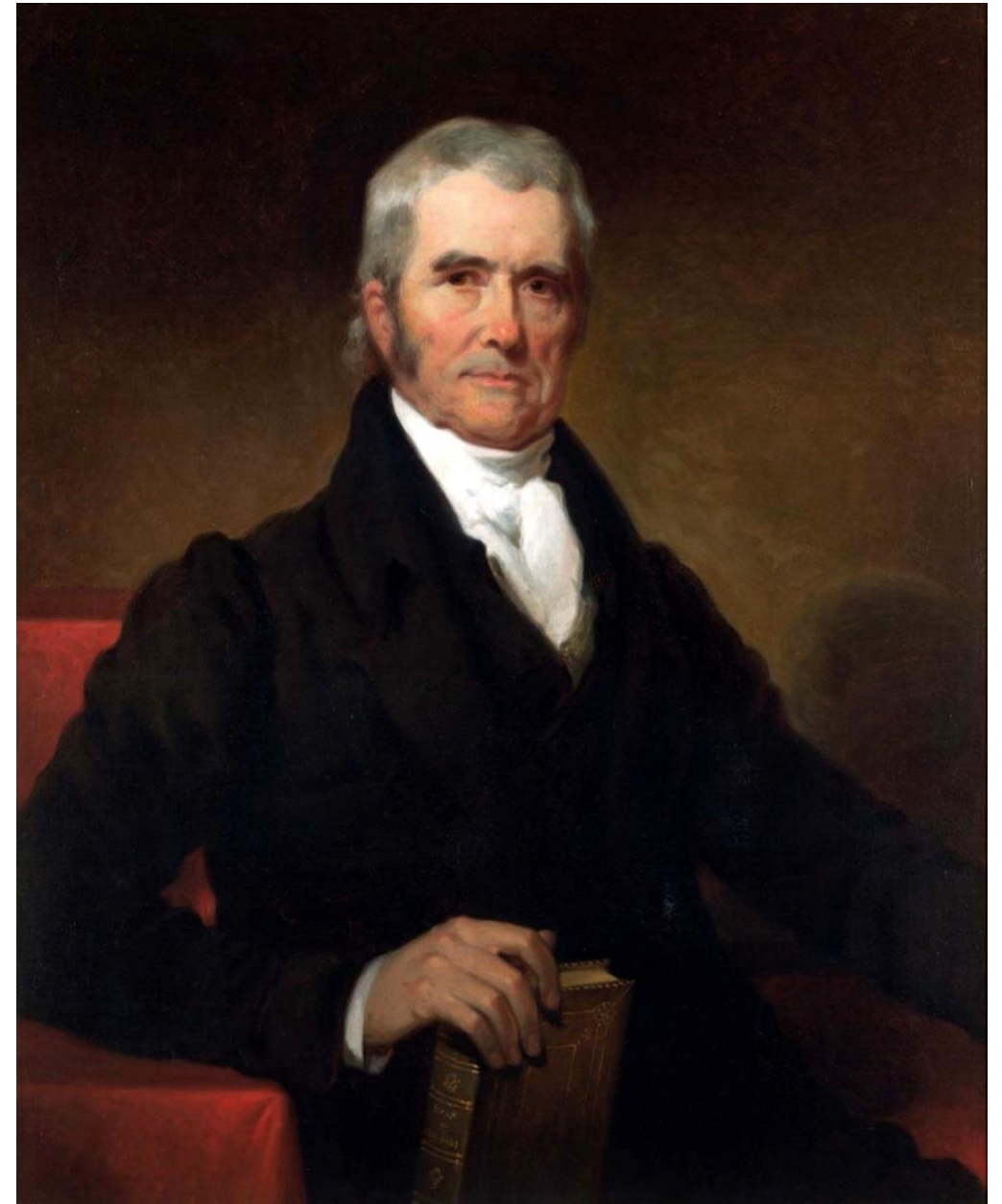
This was the Supreme Court case which the Cherokee tribe advanced in order to stay on their lands.

In 1831, a similar case, *Cherokee Nation V. Georgia* had been thrown out by the Supreme Court because the Cherokee were not citizens of the United States and therefore ineligible to bring suit.

The following year, a missionary named Worcester, who lived with the Cherokee, brought the case to the SCOTUS. This time, Chief Justice John Marshall ruled that the Cherokee treaty with the federal government must be upheld, and that the Cherokee must be allowed to stay on their land.

He ordered the federal government to protect the Cherokee tribe from encroachments on their land by the state of Georgia.

Andrew Jackson defiantly stated: "Chief Justice Marshall has made his decision. Now, let him enforce it!"



THE TRAIL OF TEARS

Andrew Jackson refused to uphold the federal law, the treaties with the federal government, and the ruling of Chief Justice John Marshall.

The Cherokee tribe was forced to march from Northern Georgia to the Indian Territory (present day Oklahoma.) They were dispossessed of all of their land and property.

During the forced march, known today as the Trail of Tears, the Cherokee tribe lost over one quarter of its members. Close to five thousand members of the 20,000 person tribe died.

Today, this force march is remembered as one of the most tragic events in a long history of genocide against Native American people.

